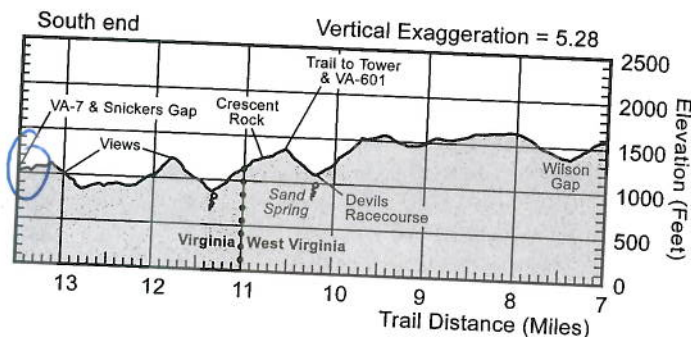
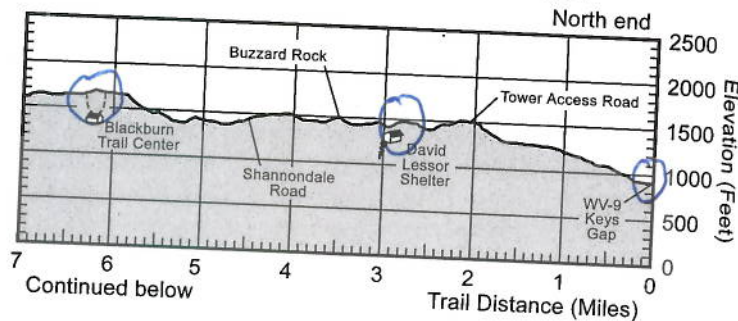


## AT Elevation Profile -- Virginia Section 2

SECTION 2  
KEYS GAP TO SNICKERS GAP

Distance: 13.5 Miles

This section, mostly along the ridge crest, offers an interesting hike with considerable variety. The length, numerous undulations, and occasional rocky footing make it one of the most rugged sections in this book. The southern three miles of this section begins a portion of the AT that has become known as the "Rollercoaster." This section is a moderately difficult day hike. Note that trail relocation work is planned for the southern end, between 9.6/3.9 mi and 10.3/3.2 mi, beginning in late 2008.

Points of interest include views from Buzzard Rocks (at 3.6/9.9 mi), from an outcrop (at 6.1/7.4 mi), from Crescent Rock (at 10.9/2.6 mi), which also has unusual rock formations, and from two outcrops (at 11.8/1.7 mi and 12.9/0.6 mi). Other points of geological interest are The Lookout (at 6.8/6.7 mi) and Devils Racecourse (at 10.3/3.2 mi). The misnamed Laurel Swamp (at 5.2/8.3 mi) has a beautiful growth of periwinkle and a former house site.

## Road Access

*Northern end of section at Keys Gap:* Keys Gap is on Va 9. The AT crosses the highway on the West Virginia side of the state line. A parking area for about 12 cars lies beside the Trail, on the northern side of the highway. Hillsboro, Va., is 6 miles east; Charles Town, W. Va., is 7.4 miles west.

*Southern end of section at Snickers Gap:* Snickers Gap is on Va 7. The AT crosses Va 7 slightly west of the gap. Numerous cars can park on the southwest corner of Va 7 and Va 601. Several cars can park where the AT leaves Va 679. From Snickers Gap, Bluemont is 1.8 miles east.